UNITED
NATIONS

S

Security Council

Distr.
GENERAL

S/25878
2 June 1993

ORIGINAL: ENGLISH

LETTER DATED 2 JUNE 1993 FROM THE PERMANENT REPRESENTATIVE OF BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA TO THE UNITED NATIONS ADDRESSED TO THE PRESIDENT OF THE SECURITY COUNCIL

I have the honour to present to you the attached letter dated 2 June 1993, from my President to Your Excellency.

May I ask for your kind assistance in circulating this letter as a document of the Security Council.

(Signed) Muhamed SACIRBEY
Ambassador
Permanent Representative

Annex

Letter dated 2 June 1993 from the President of the Presidency of the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina addressed to the President of the Security Council

As we are informed of the continuing discussions within the Security Council regarding the so-called Joint Action Program, we must emphasize certain points.

Until their mandate is reviewed with and is explicitly authorized by our Government, we cannot accept the deployment of any new United Nations mandated forces. We have presented certain questions to assist us in our evaluation. Unfortunately, the responses to these concerns have not been forthcoming. It appears, however, that the "Safe Areas" resolution proposed by the Program promoters does not:

(a) Establish a time frame to accept/implement the Vance/Owen plan and call for necessary measures to enforce the time frame;

(b) Alternative measures failing, recognize the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina's rights under Article 51;

(c) Apply the safe areas concept broadly enough to defend all threatened population centres, (while continuing to deny the full opportunity to defend these "non-safe areas/provinces" ourselves);

(d) Provide adequate forces and rules of engagement that clearly and effectively justify the designation of "safe areas";

(e) Address the control/neutralization of heavy weaponry, and the relocation of such weapons to target "non-safe areas";

Finally, we have over the last few days witnessed new Serbian attacks against several of our towns, including at least two "safe areas", (as well as the dangerously deteriorating humanitarian situation in another "safe area", Srebrenica). We have implored you to respond to these direct assaults on our civilians and the Security Council's authority. We wonder why you have not responded to these assaults and must come to the unfortunate conclusion that this is not for lack of an attainable mandate. What seems to be lacking is the will to confront the Serbians and the commitment to the Republic of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Precisely for this reason, we emphasize Article 51 and dependence on our efforts for self-defence, and not because it is our preference.

(Signed) Alija IZETBEGOVIC
President of the Presidency